

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 6-10, 12-13 and 24 as shown below.

Please **ADD** claims 49-55 as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing HIV infection in a subject in need thereof, comprising[[::]] administering an effective amount of a vaccinia virus, wherein said amount is in an effective amount at least to prevent diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV in a subject infection, with the proviso that HIV nucleic acid is not contained within the vaccinia virus genome.

2-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said subject has been exposed at least to said HIV virus or is at risk for exposure at least to said HIV.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, further comprising administering a second effective amount of [[a]] said vaccinia virus at a predetermined time interval following the administering of the said first amount.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said vaccinia virus is comprises an attenuated vaccinia virus.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said poxvirus vaccinia virus is administered at least through the mucosa.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein said vaccinia virus utilizes a CCR5 chemokine receptor for entry into a cell.

11. (Original) A method of claim 1, further comprising monitoring the HIV status of said subject.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, where said poxvirus vaccinia virus has been assayed for its ability at least to diminish the replication at least of interfere with said HIV infection.

13. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 1, wherein the preventing said diminishing the replication at least of said HIV infection is not a result of at least one of an antibody and a cytotoxic T-lymphocyte (CTL) an immunological response to a vaccinia virus poxvirus antigen.

14-23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method of treating HIV infection in a subject in need thereof, comprising[[:]] administering multiple doses to a subject, each having of said dose including an effective amount of an attenuated vaccinia virus to a subject infected with HIV, wherein said amount is effective at least to treat diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV in the subject, infection and wherein each dose is administered at a predetermined time interval from the previous dose, and are effective

to maintain protection against HIV infection

25-41. (Canceled)

42. (Withdrawn) A method of making a vaccinia virus, composition for conferring resistance to HIV infection, comprising: preparing a composition comprising vaccinia virus, or a vaccinia virus component thereof, and determining that said composition confers resistance to HIV infection to an organism or cell challenged with it.

43. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 42, wherein said determining whether said composition confers resistance to HIV infection is accomplished by: challenging said organism, or cell, with infectious HIV, and detecting the expression in said organism or cells of gp120, HIV reverse transcriptase, p24, infectious HIV particles, and/or HIV nucleic acid.

44-48. (Canceled)

49. (New) A method of claim 24, wherein at least one of said dose is administered at a predetermined time interval from a previous dose.

50. (New) A method comprising providing a poxvirus in an effective amount at least to diminish the replication at least of CCR5-tropic HIV.

51. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said poxvirus comprises a vaccinia virus.

52. (New) A method of claim 51, wherein said vaccinia virus utilizes a CCR5 chemokine receptor.

53. (New) A method of claim 51, wherein said vaccinia virus comprises an attenuated vaccinia virus.

54. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said providing comprises administering multiple doses to a subject.

55. (New) A method of claim 50, wherein said providing comprises contacting at least one cell susceptible at least to said CCR5-tropic HIV with said poxvirus.